

Application No. 10/650,058
Response to Final Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical deflection device comprising:

(a) a rotary unit comprising a rotary polygon mirror and a magnet;

5 (b) a dynamic pressure bearing comprising a rotary bearing member for rotatably supporting the rotary unit and a fixed bearing member for engaging with the rotary bearing member;

10 (c) a stator unit comprising a base member for supporting the fixed bearing member and a magnet coil for driving the rotary unit in cooperation with the magnet; and

(d) a stabilizing member which is shaped as a solid cylinder and which is provided on an upper portion of the base member and in a vicinity of an outer circumference of the polygon mirror to stabilize air flow generated by rotation of the polygon mirror,

15 wherein the stabilizing member has a height greater than a height of a lower surface of the rotary polygon mirror; and

wherein the stabilizing member is provided in an area on a side of the polygon mirror between the polygon mirror and a side wall of a main body of the optical scanning apparatus.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

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3. (Currently Amended) An optical scanning apparatus comprising:

(a) a main body;
(b) an optical deflection device provided in the main body,
5 said optical deflection device comprising a rotor unit including a rotary polygon mirror, a dynamic pressure bearing for rotatably supporting the rotor unit, and a stator unit including a base member for supporting the dynamic pressure bearing;

10 (c) an optical member of a scanning optical system provided in the main body; and

(d) a stabilizing member which is shaped as a solid cylinder
and which is provided in a vicinity of an outer circumference of the polygon mirror inside the main body to stabilize air flow generated by rotation of the polygon mirror;

15 wherein the stabilizing member has a height greater than a height of a lower surface of the rotary polygon mirror; and

wherein the stabilizing member is provided in an area on a side of the polygon mirror between the polygon mirror and a side wall of the main body of the optical scanning apparatus.

Claims 4 and 5 (Canceled).